

DEC 09 1999

MS. WHITNEY: Good evening. Again I want to welcome you to Western Shoshone territory. I spoke earlier today, and I would like to just recap a little bit of the things I talked about.

I'm glad to see so many people staying from the first to the second. This is an issue of very importance to all of us.

My name is Lois Whitney, and I am a descendent of the Western Shoshone who lived at Beowawe. I'm a descendent of many of the people throughout Western Shoshone territory.

1      Radiation in Western Shoshone territory and worldwide is not necessary or welcome. Did you hear me? Radiation in Western Shoshone territory and worldwide is not necessary or welcome.

I speak out for those beings in life that are without voice but have been impacted by colonization of our territory and by radiation. True, radiation is present in many natural energy sources and over time has contributed to natural catastrophes for millions of years and has inevitably affected all life. But man-engineered catastrophes come full circle to Western Shoshone territory.

Beginning in the 1940's, the testing of the atom bomb for nuclear warfare impacted all life in Western Shoshone territory and its neighbors, native and non, speaking and unspeaking.

And let us not forget to mention the thousands of people of Nagasaki and Hiroshima who suffered mutation and death. That's something we should have on our conscience as native people and native people to this land because we allowed it to happen. Now comes the end with transportation, too, and storage in Western Shoshone territory, radiation inevitably to complete the numerous cycle of genocide.

Stop all forms of genocide against man in all life. Did you hear me? Stop all forms of genocide against man in all life.

2      We, you and I, are significant to the survival of all. Stop the warfare against the Western Shoshone rain forest. We will be disadvantaged to fight what our senses cannot detect. Remember, there are no assurances of the health and safety and/or compensation on ourselves and our future generations. Should we allow this to exist?

3      There will be diseases attributed from the radiation that will not discriminate by race or economics. Together we determine our environment. Let's give it careful consideration. To all that we affect, to all that it does.

Stop in the name of progress nuclear waste. Did you hear me? Stop in the name of progress nuclear waste.

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I'd like to read something also. It can be part of the record if you would like it or not. It is your choice.

Today is December the 9th. And a group of native people put together a book which they called "Meditation with Native Elders" for all the seasons that exist. I believe this applies to this situation.

"December the 9th. The natural law will prevail regardless of man-made laws, tribunals and governments. This comes from the traditional circle of elders from the Navaho Hopi joint use area. The great spirit made laws by which man needs to live. These laws are just and are about living in harmony. Man has passed many laws that say it is okay to do things. Many of these man-made laws are out of harmony with the laws of the great spirit. These are man-made laws that will cause trouble for the human being if they are out of harmony with the laws of the great spirit. Teach us the proper laws." And this is our responsibility. Thank you.